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Rev. A. A. Phelps

Boston

Mass

I wish you would let me know with entire frankness what you think about my obtaining the situation & what you will do to assist me. If there is no probability, that I can get the appointment I wish you would forward me what the Abo. Society owe me as soon as possible.

Is there not some office or situation that you know of in Boston where I might be employed till Spring If so you will do me a favor to let me know

If you could assist me in obtaining the situation of Steward of the Marine Hospital, or some other in which I can gain a subsistence for myself & family & do good, you will greatly benefit & oblige an invalid & I trust subserve the cause of the Redeemer.

I hope to hear from you soon

Your Friend & Brother in the hope & fellowship

Of the Gospel

Hosea Bates

me opportunity of ministering instruction & consolation to the sick & of pointing the bewildering mariner to the Star of Bethlehem. After conversing with Mr. Baily agent of the Boston Seamens Friend Society I have concluded to apply for it. Mr. Brownson the present Steward I learn both from the Newspapers & Mr. Baily to be a wicked unprincipled man, & altogether unfit for the place. If he were a good man I would do nothing to displace him. But as it is I think it right.

Now Br. Phelps I will give up to you any demand against the Mass. Abo. Society if you will obtain for me the appointment of Steward of the Marine Hospital, which office is now held by Mr. Brownson. If you feel willing to do any thing for me on this subject, you will probably draw up a petition to be presented to the President, [the appointment being at his disposal] for the removal of Mr. Brownson & for my appointment, assigning reasons for the change. I would suggest that you also draw up a petition to be signed by the members of the Legislature & hand it to my brother who is a member of the house & he will attend to it there. Mr. Baily who stayed at my house last night, says he will sign such a petition & he thinks every orthodox Minister in Boston would do it, as well as many others. I can furnish testimonials of character &c. which I presume will satisfy yourself or the President. It may be necessary that such a document should be sent to you in order to getting signers to a petition. If so write me & write a form of certificate that will be satisfactory. If you think it necessary for me to come to Boston myself on this business please let me know, & I will come at any time &

Harper Boies.
Jan. 27, 1841.

Dalton Jany 27th 1841

Brother Phelps

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I have exercised patiently these three weeks looking daily & anxiously for a letter from you. Your last letter I received Thanksgiving day, in which you stated that my report had been laid before the Executive Committe, that they had acknowledged my account, & that I might expect my pay by the last of December or the first of Jany. On this encouragement I borrowed twenty five Dollars in Dec. & I am truly in great want of the money due me from the M. Abo. Society to pay what I have borrowed & for other purposes.

My general health is somewhat improved & I am now comfortable, but my physician gives me no encouragement of being ever able to perform Parochial labors. I am able to do any business that does not require much exercise of the lungs. I have had a very good chance to engage in mercantile business, which I shall improve if I can get no situation that suits me better.
I must do something to gain a subsistence, & provide for my family, but I wish to do this, by engaging in some business, by which I can do the the most good, or do most to promote the happiness of my fellow men. The situation of Steward of the Marine Hospital at Boston or Charlestown has been suggested to me as being one that would afford me a comfortable support, & at the same time afford